

# UI Engineering Open House Plans Surge

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The weekend of March 12 and 13 is stacking up as a big one at the University of Illinois, with the major drawing card to be the annual Engineering Open House.

Mike Hora, senior in engineering from Cicero and member of the Open House planning committee, says he expects 15,000 visitors to tour about 150 exhibits.

In addition, all laboratories and research facilities on the engineering campus will be open to the public, including the science-fiction-like computer lab which houses Illiac II.

Hora stresses that all exhibits will be staffed by undergraduates. The various setups will be judged for cash awards on the basis of originality, neatness, professional appearance, adequate explanation and clear depiction of the subject.

Also in conjunction with the Open House, Hora says, will be a freshman essay contest for "rookies" in the College of Engineering. The themes will be written on the subject of why

Engineering Open House is needed.

He says the reasons for the big annual event are two-fold—to "give the public an idea of what goes on here," and to orient would-be engineers who are now in high school to the career work they can look forward to.

**This year's Open House will be based in the Illini Union ballroom, which will be converted into "Open House Central."**

Tours will depart from this activity hub—although visitors may wander about on the "north campus" at random if they so desire—and faculty members from each engineering department will be present in the Ballroom to answer questions on curricula or other matters.

Hours during which exhibits and labs will be open to the

public are: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. March 12 (Friday); 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 13.

Linked to the annual UI affair, the Midwestern Division of JETS (Junior Engineering Technical Society) hold an exposition and conference in the Physics Building Auditorium. There will be 75 exhibits there, and Saturday morning, the students will present 25 technical papers.

**The UI Institute of Aviation, located five miles south of campus on Route 45 at the UI - Willard Airport, will also conduct tours and participate in the Open House program.**

Visitors may see a number of military aircraft, interesting home-built planes and the University's own fleet of training and transport craft.

And at the Assembly Hall, over 60 college and university teams consisting of more than 1,200 total members will compete in the world's largest intercollegiate marching contest—the UI Pershing Rifles Invitational Drill Meet.

**The meet has run for 17 years, and is sponsored by**

**the ROTC-affiliated Pershing Rifles honorary unit on campus.**

Hora said the UI Housing Division is making preparations to accommodate many of the visitors in residence halls which will be vacant for overnight housing. The Open House planning committee has also contacted hotel and motel owners in Champaign-Urbana, Hora says, and have made a number of reservations.

Also, a number of campus fraternities plan to take guests in who will be visiting the campus for the weekend.